

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-57 (Canceled)

58. (New) A semiconductor device comprising:

a seal member formed of an insulating resin;

a tab whose back side is exposed to a mounting surface of the seal member, the tab having, on a surface thereof opposite to the back side, a semiconductor chip fixing area and wire connection areas;

tab suspension leads contiguous to the tab;

a plurality of leads whose back sides are exposed to the mounting surface of the seal member;

a semiconductor chip positioned within the seal member and fixed through an adhesive onto the semiconductor chip fixing area in such a manner that a back side of the semiconductor chip is opposed to the semiconductor chip fixing area, the semiconductor chip has electrodes formed on a main surface of the semiconductor chip;

electrically conductive wires for electrically connecting the electrodes of the semiconductor chip and surfaces of the leads and electrically connecting the

electrodes on the semiconductor chip and the wire connection areas on the tab,

wherein the tab is formed larger than the semiconductor chip so that outer peripheral edges of the tab are positioned outside outer peripheral edges of the semiconductor chip, and

wherein the tab has first sides formed at the semiconductor chip fixing area and second sides opposed to the first sides, formed between the semiconductor chip fixing area and the wire connection areas.

59. (New) A semiconductor device according to claim 58, wherein the adhesive is not applied to the wire connection area on the tab.

60. (New) A semiconductor device according to claim 58, wherein a plating film is formed selectively on the wire connection areas of the tab and the surfaces of the leads, and the wires are connected onto the plating film.

61. (New) A semiconductor device according to claim 58, wherein the tab is quadrangular and the first sides and the

second sides are formed selectively in a mutually independent manner along sides of the quadrangle.

62. (New) A semiconductor device according to claim 58, wherein a width of the surface of the tab is larger than a width of the back side of the tab.